This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-133. (Canceled)

134.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

creating a digital neural archive pattern library by sampling frames of at least one of a plurality of video programs to determine recognizable patterns within each of said sampled frames;

encoding the plurality of video programs, wherein the encoding is based, at least in part, on the recognizable patterns of the digital neural archive pattern library;

associating a header with at least one of the plurality of encoded video programs, wherein the header comprises descriptive information other than specific identification of the encoded video program;

distributing a plurality of ~~user~~ consumer devices to a plurality of consumers, each consumer device comprising:

a processor configured to determine a level of match between descriptive information in the header and preference information associated with a user of the consumer device,

a storage medium configured to automatically store encoded video programs wherein the determined level of match corresponds to a predefined level of match and further configured to store digital neural archive pattern libraries, and

a recording mechanism configured to record at least one encoded video program and a digital neural archive pattern library on a removable and portable storage medium;

transmitting the plurality of encoded video programs, the header, and the digital neural archive pattern library to the plurality of consumer devices; and

enabling at least one consumer device to play back an encoded video program by decoding the encoded video program using the digital neural archive pattern library, wherein the encoded video program is stored on one of the following: the storage medium of the consumer device, or the removable and portable storage medium.

135.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 134 further comprising:

billing a consumer for enabling the at least one consumer device associated with the consumer to play back an encoded video program.

136. – 141.   (Canceled)

142.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 134, wherein the encoding further comprises encoding the plurality of video programs with time-based code keys A.

143.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 142 wherein the time-based code keys A encoded into the plurality of video programs are correlated with periodic time-based code keys B that are blanket transmitted to the plurality of consumer devices and time-based code keys C that are provided to consumer devices that are in good standing, wherein ~~the~~ a playback device can only ~~playback~~ play back a video program if all three ~~codes~~ code keys A, B and C have been received.

144.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 143 further comprising:

receiving video program playback information from a consumer device when the time-based code keys C are provided.

145.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 134 wherein the transmitting [[a]] the plurality of encoded video programs is carried out by direct broadcast satellite transmission on multiple channels in compressed-time format.

146.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon for performing the method of claim 134.

147.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 146, further having computer-executable instructions stored thereon for billing a consumer for enabling the at least one consumer device associated with the consumer to play back an encoded video program.

148. – 153.   (Canceled)

154.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 147, further having
computer-executable instructions stored thereon for encoding the plurality of video programs
with time-based code keys A.

155.   (Currently amended) A computer readable medium as in claim 154, wherein the time-
based code keys A encoded into the plurality of video programs are correlated with periodic
time-based code keys B that are blanket transmitted to the plurality of consumer devices and time-
based code keys C that are provided to consumer devices that are in good standing, wherein [[a]]
the consumer can only view a video program if all three codes keys A, B and C have been
received.

156.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 155, further having
computer-executable instructions stored thereon for receiving video program playback information
from a consumer device when the time-based code keys C are provided.

157.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 146, wherein the
instructions for transmitting the plurality of encoded video programs comprise instructions for
transmitting by direct broadcast satellite transmission on multiple channels in compressed-time
format.

158.   (Currently amended) A device comprising:
        a receiving mechanism configured to receive:
                a plurality of encoded video programs,
                at least one header associated with at least one of the plurality of encoded video
programs, wherein the at least one header comprises descriptive information other than
specific identification of the at least one of the ~~encoded~~ plurality of encoded video
programs, and
                a digital neural archive pattern library, wherein the digital neural archive
pattern library consists of recognizable patterns selected from frames of at least one of
the plurality of encoded video programs;
        a processor configured to determine a level of match between descriptive information
in the header and preference information associated with a user of the device;

a storage medium configured to store encoded video programs and digital neural
archive pattern libraries;

an automatic overwriting mechanism configured to:

determine whether there is sufficient space in the storage medium to store a
first encoded video program wherein the determined level of match of the first encoded
video program corresponds to a predefined level of match,

select a second encoded video program stored in the storage medium to be
overwritten, and

overwrite the second encoded video program with the first encoded video
program;

a recording mechanism configured to record at least one encoded video program and a
digital neural archive pattern library on a removable and portable storage medium; and

a decoding mechanism configured to decode an encoded video program for playback
when the decoding mechanism is enabled, wherein the decoding the encoded video program is
based in part on the digital neural archive pattern library, and wherein the encoded video
program for playback is stored on one of the following: the storage medium, or the removable
and portable storage medium.

159.   (Canceled)

160.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 158 further comprising:

a billing mechanism in communication with the playback mechanism configured to
transmit billing information to a central billing system accounting for each time the
automatically selected video program has been enabled for playback.

161.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 158 further comprising:

a control mechanism in communication with the receiving mechanism configured to verify
a received combination of time-based code keys for enabling said playback mechanism to play
back the encoded video program.

162.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 161 further comprising:

a decoding mechanism in communication with the control mechanism configured to decode transmitted video programs wherein time-based code keys A that are encoded into the transmitted video programs are correlated with periodic time-based code keys B that are blanket transmitted to a plurality of consumer devices and time-based code keys C that are provided to consumer devices that are in good standing such that a consumer can only view a video program if all three codes keys A, B and C have been received by the playback device.

163.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 162 wherein the billing mechanism comprises:

a mechanism configured to communicate an identity of said previously selected video program and a unique identifying address associated with said consumer to said central billing system in response to initiating playback of the previously selected video program; and

a playback-enabling mechanism configured to receive from said central billing system the time-based code key C for identifying a status of said consumer to enable said playback of said previously selected video program.

164.   (Canceled)

165.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 163, wherein the second encoded video program to be overwritten is the oldest stored video program in the storage medium.

166.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 163, wherein the second encoded video program to be overwritten is an older release of the first encoded video program.

167.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 163, wherein a header associated with the second encoded video program to be overwritten contains similar descriptive information as descriptive information in a header associated with the first encoded video program.

168.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a plurality of encoded video programs at a consumer device;

receiving at least one header associated with at least one of the plurality of encoded

video programs received, wherein the at least one header comprises descriptive information

other than specific identification of the at least one of the plurality of encoded video programs;

receiving a digital neural archive pattern library, wherein the digital neural archive

pattern library consists of recognizable patterns selected from frames of at least one of the

plurality of encoded video programs;

determining a level of match between descriptive information in the header and

preference information associated with a user of the device;

determining whether there is sufficient space in a storage medium to store a first

encoded video program wherein the determined level of match of the first encoded video

program corresponds to a predefined level of match;

selecting a second encoded video program stored in the storage medium to be

overwritten; ~~and~~

overwriting the second encoded video program with the first encoded video program;

and

decoding, when enabled, an encoded video program for playback, wherein the

decoding the encoded video program is based in part on the digital neural archive pattern

library, and wherein the encoded video program for playback is stored on one of the

following: the storage medium, or ~~the~~ a removable and portable storage medium.

169.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 168 further comprising:

receiving a bill once the decoding the encoded video program for playback is enabled.

170.   (Canceled)

171.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 168, wherein the second encoded video

program to be overwritten is the oldest stored video program in the storage medium.

172.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 168, wherein the second encoded video

program to be overwritten is an older release of the first encoded video program.

173.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 168, wherein a header associated with the second encoded video program to be overwritten contains similar descriptive information as descriptive information in a header associated with the first encoded video program.

174.   (Canceled)

175.   (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a mechanism configured to receive a plurality of encoded video programs at a consumer device;

a mechanism configured to receive at least one header associated with at least one of the plurality of encoded video programs transmitted, wherein the at least one header comprises descriptive information other than specific identification of the at least one of the plurality of encoded video programs;

a mechanism configured to receive a digital neural archive pattern library, wherein the digital neural archive pattern library consists of recognizable patterns selected from frames of at least one of the plurality of encoded video programs;

a mechanism configured to determine a level of match between the descriptive information in the header and preference information associated with a user of the device;

a mechanism configured to determine whether there is sufficient space in a storage medium to store a first encoded video program wherein the determined level of match of the first encoded video program corresponds to a predefined level of match;

a mechanism configured to select a second encoded video program stored in the storage medium to be overwritten; and

a mechanism configured to overwrite the second encoded video program with the first encoded video program; and

a mechanism configured to decode, when enabled, an encoded video program for playback, wherein the decoding the encoded video program is based in part on the digital neural archive pattern library, and wherein the encoded video program for playback is stored on one of the following: the storage medium or the a removable and portable storage medium.

176.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 175 further comprising:

a billing mechanism configured to provide information that enables a provider to bill a consumer associated with the consumer device once the decoding the encoded video program for playback is enabled.

177.   (Canceled)